I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELO ADDRESSED TO: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:

Patent Application of

Darwin J. Prockop et al

Appln. No:

08/913,918

Filed:

December 8, 1997

Title:

ISOLATED STROMAL CELLS AND

METHODS OF USING SAME

Group Art Unit 1651 Witzb CT To the Control of the Contr

: Examiner: Jean ි

Attorney Docket

No. 9855-14U1

: (TJU-1857)

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Responsive to the Election of Species Requirement dated August 16, 1999 (Paper No. 12), issued in connection with the above-identified application, Applicants hereby elect

a gene construct encoding an obesity factor.

The Applicants believe that each of pending claims 37, 38, and 55-68 are readable on the elected species.

An early and favorable first office action on the merits is repectfullly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Darwin J. Prockop, et al.

Gary D. Colby, Ph.D.

Registration No. 40,961

Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, L.L.P.

One Commerce Square, 22nd Floor

2005 Market Street

Philadelphia, PA 19103-7086

Telephone:

(215) 965-1285

Facsimile:

(215) 567-2991

E-Mail:

GCOLBY@AKINGUMP.COM